etc. As such, it is not possible to quantify the outflow of funds exclusively for administering the sugar control;

Increase in Price of Wheat and Rice

†3678. PROF. RAM GOPAL YADAV:
SHRI RAMA SHANKER KAUSHIK:

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have raised the prices of wheat and rice to be sold through PDS; if so, the extent of increase thereof and the level of ration distribution in this regard; and

(b) how Government would dertermine categorization of the people living below the poverty line and the people living above the poverty line so that the people get ration at reasonable price.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHRIRAM CHAUHAN): (a) Yes, Sir. Allocation of foodgrains under TPDS has been doubled from 10 kg. to 20 kg. per family per month at 50% of economic cost for BPL families and allocation for APL families has been maintained at economic cost w.e.f. 1.4.2000.

The details of increase in price of wheat and rice are as under:—

(Rs. per quintal)

Commodity	BPL		APL	
	Pre-revised	Revised w.e.f. 1.4.2000	Pre-revised	Revised w.e.f. 1.4.2000
Wheat	250	450	682	900
Rice (i) Common	350	590	—	—
(ii) Grade 'A'	350	590	905	1180
(iii) Common rice for families above poverty line (APL) applicable to J&K, H.P., N.E. States. Sikkim and hilly areas of U.P.			700	1135

†Original Notice of the Question was received in Hindi.

(b) Public Distribution System (PDS) is implemented under the joint responsibility of the Central and State Government/UT Administration. The Central Government is responsible for procurement, storage and transportation of the PDS commodities upto the contral godowns and making them available to the State. The operational responsibility for implementing the PDS including identification of the poor rests with the State Government/UT Administration. States have been asked to formulate and implement foolproof arrangement for identification of the poor. In the guidelines for implementation of TPDS and the States/ UTs have been requested as follows :—

(i) The thrust should be to include only the really poor and vulnerable sections of the society such as landless agricultural labourers, marginal farmersx, rural artisans/craftsmen such as potters, tappers, weavers, blacksmiths, carpenters, etc. in the rural areas and slum dwellers, persons earning their ulCqinformal sector like porters, rickshaw pullers and handcart pullers, fruit and flower sellers on the pavements, etc. in urban areas. The categories so listed are only by way of illustration and is in no way an exhaustive list of those who could be brought within ambit of BPL population.

(ii) the quinquennial BPL census made at the instance of the Ministry of Rural Development for implementation of IRDP can be a basis and the guidelines issued by that Minrstry for BPL suriey may be adopted. However, the overall number of BPL families identified should be limited to the estimates of Planning Commission based on the Expert Group methodology adopted by the Government of India for TPDS.

(iii) Gram Panchayats and Gram Sabhas should be involved in the identification of eligible families below poverty line.

Suggestion of Standing Committee on FCI

†3679. SHRI RAMA SHANKER KAUSHIK:
PROF RAM GOPAL YADAV:

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

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†Original Notice of the Question was received in Hindi.